

# A Polite Protest In Union Square

By Jerry Carroll

A series of speakers, as anxious as they were angry, called on French President Georges Pompidou last night to cancel the sale of 110 French Mirage jets to Libya.

If the deal goes through, a crowd of nearly a thousand persons in Union Square was told, it could be fatal to the fragile existence of Israel and a menace to world peace.

"Pompidou may be thinking he's pouring oil on troubled waters," declared Albert Arent, a Washington attorney who is vice chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

"But I say he's pouring flames on a fire that may engulf the entire world," he added.

"We cannot remain silent. We ought not to remain silent. We shall not remain silent," vowed Reynold H. Colvin, a past chairman of the Jewish Community Relations Council here.

## HOTEL

Union Square is in front of the St. Francis Hotel, where President Pompidou arrived for a two-night stay three hours after the rally ended.

The hotel was guarded by 90 policemen, including the 34-man Tactical Squad, and Police Captain Jeremiah Taylor flew overhead in a helicopter during the rally.

Although a line of police moved into the square midway through the rally, there was never the slightest suggestion that the sober, well-dressed crowd would do anything other than applaud speeches.

And, indeed, most of the



**Israeli  
Visitor**

Ruth Dayan, wife of Israel's defense minister, Moshe Dayan, said yesterday that it was an accident that her fund-raising visit to the Bay Area coincided with French President Pompidou's.

She said, however, that she thought it was a good idea for Jewish leader to confer with him, as planned. She is on a fund raising trip for the Jewish Welfare Federation.

speakers went out of the way to express the traditional Jewish regard for the French people and nation.

## "DUPLICITY"

"In no way is this rally to be considered an insult to Pompidou, the French government for the French people," said Ernest H. Weiner, public relations director for the Jewish Welfare Federation.

But, as one placard put it, "Peace is Not a Mirage."

"We have the right and the duty to let the warm-hearted people of France know what we feel about the cynical duplicity of their government," Arent said.

striped pants tell you," Arent added, referring to Pompidou, "you do not enjoy a good reputation with the American people. They would not buy a new car from you."

## OIL

He said it is "meglomania" for Pompidou to believe he can wean the Arabs away from Soviet influence by supplying them with arms.

Instead, Arent said, the French government is merely confirming the 22-year-old dream of the Arabs of "using the power of their oil to seduce great nations."

Stanford professor Joshua Lederberg, a Nobel Prize-winning geneticist, said he can't believe Pompidou is hostile to Jews or to Israel. Nonetheless, he added:

"The Arab bloc is avowedly dedicated to a holy war that would drive Israel into the sea. If they succeed with your help, you, and France will pay a price — you will have to live with the knowledge that Georges Pompidou had finished the work that Adolf Hitler had started."

Added Lederberg: "Do you think that French culture, or any civilized culture, will long survive in a world in which that can have happened?"

## APPLAUSE

The Rev. James C. Brown, pastor of the First Congregational Church here, drew loud applause when he ringingly declared:

"The Jewish people, victimized through the centuries and slaughtered on a grand scale in present memory, have a right to a home."

"The victims of Auschwitz still cry out for the fundamental right to be a people on soil that is home."

The Rev. Eugene Boyle, chairman of the Social Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of San Francisco agreed, adding: "Israel must survive, must live."

## CANDLES

A telegram from Representative Phillip Burton (Dem-San Francisco) was read expressing his "moral outrage" at the Mirage deal and Assemblyman Willie Brown, a fellow Democrat, got up to say "right on" to that thought.

The rally broke up with scores of candles being lighted and Colvin asking the crowd not to let the candle wax drip on the sidewalk.

Petitions circulated during the rally asking France not to "join the Soviet Union in supplying arms to the Arab nations" collected some 3000 signatures.

Approximately 400 of the demonstrators remained outside the hotel to watch Pompidou's arrival.